

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-10 NEA-06 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 OMB-01 EB-03 AID-05

DRC-01 /097 W

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R 102130Z OCT 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6216

UNCLAS USUN 3920

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNEP OCON, SENV

SUBJ: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION AND CENTER FOR BUILDING,

HOUSING AND PLANS

1. MINISTER-COUNSELLOR AND MISSION OFFICER SPEND ONE HOUR WITH PAUL MWALUKO, DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR BUILDING, HOUSING AND PLANS IN FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS REGARDING THE FUTURE OF THE CENTER WHEN THE NEW FUND GETS INTO BUSINESS. POINTS MADE BY MINISTER- COUNSELLOR WERE AS FOLLOWS: (1) THAT THE SECRETARIAT COULD EXPECT A FIGHT IF THE CENTER COUNTINUES AS IT IS NOW CONSTITUTED I.E. BUSINESS AS USUAL

(2) THAT THE WEOS AND THE EASTERN EUROPEANS IN PARTICULAR WOULD NOT ACCEPT ANY SOLUTION THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE SUBVERSION OF UNEP'S MAJOR PRIORITIES IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL FIELD BY, FOR EXAMPLE, SHIFTING UNEP MONIES TO THE FUND OVER AND ABOVE THE \$4 MILLION READY ALLOCATED; (3) THAT THE ARGUMENTS USED BY THE SECRETARIAT TO PRESERVE THE CENTER, PRESENTED AT THE SUMMER ECOSOC, WERE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE, AT LEAST SO FAR AS THE USG WAS CONCERNED AND PROBABLY A NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AS WELL; (4) THAT THE US. DELEGATION IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE SITE OF THE FUND ON ITS MERITS, BUT SINCE THE FUND WILL BE, IF IT IS ANYTHING MORE THAN A NICKLE AND DIME OPERATION, LOOKING FOR FINANCIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSISTANCE FROM THE PRIVATE BANKING COMMUNITY, NEW YORK WOULD

APPEAR TO BE A LOGICAL SITE; (5) THAT ONE POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE FOR THE CENTER TO CONCENTRATE ON POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH, TRANSFERRING ITS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPERATION TO THE FUND; (6) THAT ANOTHER POSSIBILITY, PERHAPS COMBINED WITH THE FORMER WOULD BE TO HAVE THE FUND LOCATED UNDER THE CENTER. THESE LAST TWO POINTS WERE MADE IN ORDER TO GET MWALUKO THINKING IN TERMS OTHER THAN SEEKING A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD RESULT IN BUSINESS AS USUAL.

2. MWALUKO OBVIOUSLY HAS BEEN DRUMMING UP SUPPORT TO PREVENT THE ABSORPTION OF THE CENTER OR ANY OF ITS PARTS INTO THE FUND. HE, FOR EXAMPLE, MENTIONED A CONVERSATION WITH MAURICE STRONG IN WHICH HE QUOTED STRONG AS SAYING THAT HE (STRONG) INDICATED THAT IT WAS NOT THE INTENT OF UNEP TO SEEK THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE CENTER. HE ALSO IMPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN TALKING WITH SOME AFRICAN DELEGATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. FINALLY, HE NOTED THAT THE SITUATION WITHIN THE UN FAMILY IS VERY COMPLICATED, IMPLYING THAT THE CARDS ARE DELICATELY STACKED AND THE REMOVAL OF ONE WOULD HAVE REPRECUSSIONS ELSEWHERE (IN WFP, FAO, WHO AND UNIDO).

3. SOMTIME NEXT WEEK, THE ECOSOC SECRETARIAT PLANS TO HOLD A MEETING OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SOME KIND OF UNDERSTANDING. USUN WILL ATTEND. WOULD WELCOME ANY THOUGHTS DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE ASAP, SO THAT WE MIGHT GO TO MEETING WITH AGREED UPON INITIAL POSITION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, BUILDINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN03920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740289-0326
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741054/aaaabugo.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION AND CENTER FOR BUILDING, HOUSING AND PLANS
TAGS: AORG, OCON, SENV, PORG, US, UNEP, (MWALUKO, PAUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005